IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An exhaust emission control device <u>comprising</u>:

with a particulate filter stored in a muffler <u>having a casing connected for receiving</u>

engine exhaust gases from which in turn is incorporated in an exhaust pipe[[,]];

a particulate filter arranged in the casing so as to receive the exhaust gases, wherein at least a portion of the periphery of the particulate filter is spaced from the casing to define a space in the casing, and surrounding the particulate filter, through which the exhaust gases can flow, whereby the space in the casing can muffle sound from the exhaust gases;

comprising a recess at a temperature detecting area at the on-a casing of the muffler, said recess creating a being concave extending through the space surrounding the particulate filter up to a position in proximity to reach the particulate filter in the easing,; and a temperature sensor arranged to penetrate a deepest portion of said recess.

Claim 2. (Original) The exhaust emission control device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the recess is in the form of a cup and an operation space is secured around the temperature sensor penetrating the recess to allow for operation of a tool for attachment/detachment of said temperature sensor.